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## **NEWS RELEASE**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 14, 2004

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## **Idaho Nutrition Program Adopts New Income Guidelines**

More Idaho families may be eligible for a special nutrition program that can help them save money, eat well and stay healthy. Idaho's Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) implements new income guidelines this month that raise the household income eligibility limits.

At no cost to qualified families, WIC provides federally funded nutritious supplemental foods like milk, eggs, cheese, cereal, juice, beans and peanut butter. WIC services also include health screenings, nutrition counseling, breastfeeding information and support, help from registered dietitians and referrals to other services that may aid a family in need.

To be eligible for the WIC program, an individual must be a pregnant or breastfeeding woman, or an infant or child under five years of age. In addition, the individual must live in Idaho, have a special need that can be helped by WIC foods and nutrition counseling, and have a low-to-moderate income. To be eligible on the basis of income, an applicant's gross income must fall at or below 185 percent of the U.S. Poverty Income Guidelines.

## WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines

May 1, 2004

Number of Household Members	Maximum Gross Household Income	
	Per Month	Per Year
1	\$1,436	\$17,224
2	\$1,926	\$23,107
3	\$2,416	\$28,990
4	\$2,907	\$34,873
5	\$3,397	\$40,756
More than 5	Call the Local WIC Program	Call the Local WIC Program

<sup>\*</sup>One pregnant woman counts as two household members.

For more information about WIC in your area, call the Idaho CareLine at 211 or 1-800-926-2588. Information can also be found on the web at  $\underline{www.state.id.us/dhw/wic}$ .

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(Editors: For more information, contact Jill McGregor at 208-334-5954)